

## General Leslie Groves' Statement to the Officers about the Atomic Bomb, 1945.

Gen. Groves' talk to the Officers:

As you know, this is the first time I have been here for a long time. A great many things have happened during that time. The Manhattan Engineer District has been made known to the world. We brought about peace; there is no question about that.

In 1942 when talking to Mr. Carpenter, president of duPont, I told him that the first country which developed this could effect an end to the war in a hurry and it would be their advantage. That same thing was told to Tennessee Eastman Corporation and the Union Carbide and Carbon Chemical Corporation. I think my estimate of the situation was correct.

We do not know just what would have happened had we been able to drop it on Germany. All reports from Nagasaki and Hiroshima indicate that nobody could possibly hold up against such a weapon.

The bomb was dropped as the results of thousands and tens of thousands of people, the leaders of which are right here in front of us. I think you know what you have done and that you will never have to be apologetic of what you did during the war.

There is no question but what we ended the war months before it could have ended otherwise, and by so doing, we saved a great many thousands of American lives. If the truth were known we probably also saved a great many Jap lives if we remember the ratio is ten Japs to every one American.

It is not an inhuman weapon. I have no apologies or excuses for its use. I think our best answer to anyone who doubts this is that we did not start the war and if they don't like the way that we ended it, to remember that they started.

I want to extend my thanks to you for myself, the War Department, and the United States.